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E UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/562,400 Confirmation No. : 8481

First Named Inventor : Hiroshi KANNAN Filed : April 25, 2006

TC/A.U. : 1765

Examiner : Mahmoud DAHIMENE

Docket No. : 010986.57272US

Customer No. : 23911

Title : Plasma Generation Method, Cleaning Method, and

Substrate Processing Method

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attached Form PTO-1449 lists documents which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

I. <u>Time Period of Submission</u>

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or 2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later) or 3) before a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R.§ 1.17(p) is required.
2) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action closing prosecution (Exparte Quayle), (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith:
a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or
a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
3) after either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, bubefore payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and

a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

II. Staten	nent Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)
Information foreign pater	I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a nt office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
Information patent office making a I Information	I hereby state that no item of information contained in this Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information tatement; or
III. Staten	nent under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)
Information foreign pater was not rece	I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a nt office in a counterpart application and that this communication ived by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than rior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
IV. Submi	ssion of Non-English Language Documents
	The following is a concise explanation of relevance of the non- uage documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449:
the present i	The relevance of document(s) to the subject matter of invention is/are provided in the specification of the above-identified
document(s) already in I	Corresponding foreign or international report(s) citing, together with an English-language version(s) (if not English) of that portion of the report(s) indicating the degree of and by the foreign office(s) is/are submitted.
document(s)	oxtimes English language family member publication(s) of AB and AC is/are noted on Form PTO-1449.

<u>AB</u> .	\boxtimes	English language abstract(s) is/are submitted for document(s)						
	_ is/are s	English tra ubmitted herew		f the fo	oreign langua	ge document(s)		
		Applicant ——·	submits	the	following	explanations:		
V. <u>C</u>	Continuat	ions/Divisional	<u>s</u>					
since th	Documents were of record in parent application Serial No, filed, from which this application claims benefit. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to or cited by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the afore-mentioned parent application.							
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.								
If necessary, this paper should be considered as an authorization to charge Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 010986.57272US, for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).								
June 28	3, 2007		Jeffre	y D. Sa	submitted, nok No. 32,169			
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PTO/SB/08a (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO **Application Number** 10/562,400 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE April 25, 2006 Filing Date STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor Hiroshi KANNAN Art Unit 1763 **Examiner Name** To Be Assigned (Use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet Ωf **Attorney Docket Number** 010986.57272US

				U.S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Cite No.1	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	US-2001/0048981	A1	12-06-2001	Suzukl	
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		Foreign Patent Document			Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵
	AB	JP 11-319545 A	11-24-1999	Canon Inc.	Corresponds to AA above	ABS
	AC	KR 1999-0063077 A	07-26-1999		Corresponds to AA above	

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 1 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete. including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.